

~~interaction different from the first interaction.~~

28. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein the modulator is deletion mutant of the Robo or Slit polypeptide.

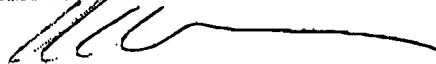
REMARKS.

New claims 8-19 are directed to the same subject matter as elected and canceled claims 4-5 8. Upon allowability of these product claims, Applicants request joinder of method claims 20-28 (in the case of an elected product claim, rejoinder will be permitted when a product claim is found allowable and the withdrawn process claim depends from or otherwise includes all the limitations of an allowed product claim, per Commissioner Lehman's Notice of February 28, 1996: Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer* and 35 U.S.C. 103(b)). The method of claims 20-23 is exemplified on p.13, line 23 - p.14, line 24 and that of claims 24-28 on p.11, line 27 - p.13, line 21.

Slit polypeptides comprising the species-specific sequences unboxed in Tables 1 and 2 are found on p.6, lines 15-18. The peptides of claim 18 are found on page 6, lines 20-33. The 64 residue and 500 bp limitations are found on p.6, line 11 and p.11, line 9, respectively. These amendments introduce no new matter.

We petition for any necessary extension of time (small entity) pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, if necessary, or credit any overcharges associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 19-0750 (order no. B98-031-3).

Respectfully submitted,
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY LAW GROUP


Richard Aron Osman, Ph.D., Reg. No. 36,627
Telephone: (650) 343-4341